

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend pending claims 1, 7, 24, 34, 43, and 56 as noted below.

1. (currently amended) A method for treating ~~or preventing cancer~~ a B-cell malignancy, the method comprising:

administering to a subject having or at risk of developing ~~cancer~~ a B-cell malignancy (a) an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to upregulate CD20 expression and (b) an anti-CD20 antibody.

2. (canceled)

3. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is an immunostimulatory T-rich nucleic acid.

4. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is an immunostimulatory poly-G nucleic acid.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid is bacterial DNA.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~cancer~~ B-cell malignancy is B-cell lymphoma associated with low levels of CD20 expression.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the B-cell lymphoma is B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia (B-CLL).

9. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the B-cell lymphoma is a marginal zone lymphoma.
10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the anti-CD20 antibody is C2B8.
11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the anti-CD20 antibody is Rituximab.
12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid does not hybridize with genomic DNA or RNA under stringent conditions.
13. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid has a modified backbone.
14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the modified backbone is a phosphate backbone modification.
15. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the modified backbone is an amino acid backbone.
16. (canceled)
17. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid is 8 to 40 nucleotides in length.
18. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid is isolated.
19. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid is a synthetic nucleic acid.

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20. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid and anti-CD20 antibody are administered together.
21. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory nucleic acid and the anti-CD20 antibody are administered separately.
22. (withdrawn) A method for diagnosing lymphoma, comprising:
isolating a B cell from a subject having or suspected of having a type of lymphoma and identifying a change in a cell surface marker when the B cell is contacted with an immunostimulatory nucleic acid, wherein the cell surface marker induced on the B cell is indicative of the type of lymphoma.
23. (canceled)
24. (currently amended) A method for treating ~~or preventing cancer~~ B-cell malignancy, the method comprising:
administering to a subject having or at risk of developing ~~cancer~~ a B-cell malignancy an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, in an effective amount to induce expression of a surface antigen on a cancer cell surface, wherein said surface antigen is chosen from a CD22 antigen and a CD19 antigen, and
administering to the subject an antibody chosen from an anti-CD22 antibody and an anti-CD19 antibody.
- 25.-33. (canceled)
34. (currently amended) A method for treating lymphoma, the method comprising:
isolating a B cell from a subject having lymphoma,

identifying a surface antigen chosen from CD19, CD20, and CD22 which is not expressed or which is expressed on the surface of the B cell in an amount lower than that of a normal B cell, and

administering to the subject (a) an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen on the cancer cell B cell surface and (b) an antibody specific for the surface antigen.

35.-42. (canceled)

43. (currently amended) A method for treating a lymphoma resistant to antibody therapy, the method comprising:

administering to a subject having a lymphoma resistant to therapy with an antibody specific for a surface antigen chosen from CD19, CD20, and CD22, an antibody specific for the surface antigen and an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, wherein the nucleic acid is administered in an effective amount to upregulate expression of the surface antigen on the lymphoma.

44.-55. (canceled)

56. (currently amended) A method for treating cancer in a human, the method comprising:

administering to a human having a cancer with cells expressing a cell surface antigen an immunostimulatory CpG oligonucleotide between 6 and 100 nucleotides long, said nucleic acid comprising at least the formula 5' X₁X₂CGX₃X₄ 3', wherein C is unmethylated and wherein X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ are nucleotides, and an antibody of IgG1 isotype, which antibody binds to the cell surface antigen, wherein the nucleic acid and the antibody are administered in an effective amount for killing the cells expressing the cell surface antigen.

57.-75. (canceled)

76. (withdrawn) A kit, comprising:
a package including at least two containers,
the first container housing an immunostimulatory nucleic acid,
the second container housing an antibody specific for a cell surface antigen, and
instructions for screening a cell to determine whether the immunostimulatory nucleic acid
upregulates expression of the cell surface antigen.

77. (canceled)